

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 26-XX are presented for examination.

1-25. (CANCELLED)

26. (currently amended) A canine head halter, comprising:
a collar member configured and arranged to encircle a canine neck behind the ears and below the chin, said collar member having a top strap formed of a first nylon strap material and respectively connected at first and second ends to first and second metal collar rings, and a bottom strap formed of the first nylon strap material and respectively connected at first and second ends to the first and second metal collar rings to thereby form a continuous loop;

a snout loop configured and arranged to encircle the canine snout having a lofted upper nose member formed of a second type of material different from the first nylon strap material and directly connected with closed first and second ends to first and second metal snout loop rings, and an under chin member formed of the first nylon strap material and respectively connected at first and second ends to the first and second snout loop rings to thereby form said snout loop as a continuous loop, wherein the second type of material is more elastic than the nylon strap material;

a first cheek strap connecting the first collar ring to the first snout loop ring;

a second cheek strap connecting the second collar ring to the second snout loop ring; and

an under chin strap connected at a first end to the bottom strap of said collar member and connected at a second end to a metal cinch ring, wherein a portion of the under chin member of

said snout loop is drawn through the cinch ring for attachment to a dog leash.

27. (currently amended) A canine head halter, comprising:
a collar member formed of a first type of material to encircle a canine neck;

a snout loop to encircle the canine snout, said snout loop having a non-flat portion formed of a second type of material ~~different from that is more elastic than~~ the first type of material with closed ends to directly contact the upper canine snout;

first and second cheek straps connecting the collar member to the non-flat portion; and

an under chin strap connected at a first end to said collar member and connected at a second end to a cinch ring,

wherein a lower portion of said snout loop is drawn through the cinch ring to close the canine jaw.

28. (Previously presented) The canine head halter according to claim 27, wherein a dog leash is connected to the lower portion of said snout loop after being drawn through the cinch ring.

29. (Previously presented) The canine head halter according to claim 27, further comprising:

a retaining ring attached about the lower portion of said snout loop after being drawn through the cinch ring to thereby retain the drawn relation of the lower portion of said snout loop through the cinch ring,

wherein a dog leash is connected to the retaining ring.

30. (Previously presented) The canine head halter according to claim 27, wherein said first and second cheek straps are respectively connected to said collar member by respective first and second rings.

31. (Previously presented) The canine head halter according to claim 30, wherein the first and second rings are metal such that said first and second cheek straps rotate about the first and second metal rings to conform to the shape of the canine head.

32. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim 30, wherein the first type of material is a flat nylon braid strap ~~said first and second cheek straps are respectively connected to said snout loop by respective third and fourth rings.~~

33. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim ~~32~~ 30, wherein said first and second cheek straps are respectively connected to said snout loop by respective third and fourth metal rings ~~wherein the third and fourth rings are metal~~ such that said first and second cheek straps rotate about the third and fourth metal rings to conform to the shape of the canine head.

34. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim 27, wherein the second type of material is a cotton/nylon braid having a cylindrical shape.

35. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim 27, wherein the second type of material is lofted ~~softer than the first material.~~

36. (currently amended) A canine head halter, comprising:
a collar member to encircle a canine neck and having top and bottom straps formed of a ~~first~~ nylon strap material and respectively connected by first and second metal rings;
a snout loop to encircle the canine snout and having an upper nose member formed of a second type of material ~~different from that is more elastic than the~~ first nylon strap material and directly connected by closed ends to third and fourth metal rings, said snout loop having an under chin member connected to the third and fourth metal rings;
a first cheek strap connecting the first and third metal rings, and a second cheek strap connecting the second and fourth metal rings; and
an under chin strap connected at a first end to the bottom strap of said collar member and connected at a second end to a fifth metal ring,
wherein a portion of said snout loop is drawn through the fifth metal ring to close the canine jaw.

37. (Previously presented) The canine head halter according to claim 36, wherein the first cheek strap rotates about a portion of the first metal ring and rotates about a portion of the third metal ring to conform to the canine head, and the second cheek strap rotates about a portion of the second metal ring and rotates about a portion of the fourth metal ring to conform to the canine head.

38. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim 36, wherein the ~~first~~ nylon strap material is a flat nylon braid ~~strap~~.

39. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim 36, wherein the second type of material is a cotton/nylon braid having a cylindrical shape.

40. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim ~~36~~ 37, wherein the second type of material is lofted ~~softer~~ ~~than the first material~~.

41. (currently amended) A canine head halter, comprising:
a collar member means formed of a first nylon strap material;

a snout loop having a non-flat portion formed of a second type of material ~~different from that is more elastic than the~~ first nylon strap material with closed ends to directly contact the upper canine snout;

first and second cheek ~~straps~~ strap means connecting the collar member means to the non-flat portion; and

an under chin strap means connected at a first end to said collar member means and connected at a second end to a cinch ring,

wherein a lower portion of said snout loop is drawn through the cinch ring to close the canine jaw.

42. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim 41, wherein the first nylon strap material is a piercible woven fabric that is permanently attached at a first end to a buckle, said buckle connecting the first end of said collar member means to a plurality of positions along a second end of said collar member means by piercing through spaces defined by weaves of the woven fabric.

43. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim 41,

wherein said first cheek strap means is connected to said collar member means by a first ring and said second cheek strap means is connected to said collar member means by a second ring, such that said first and second cheek ~~straps~~ strap means rotate about respective portions of the first and second rings to conform to the canine head, and

wherein said first cheek strap means is connected to said snout loop by a third ring and said second cheek strap means is connected to said snout loop by a fourth ring, such that said first and second cheek ~~straps~~ strap means rotate about respective portions of the third and fourth rings to conform to the canine head.

44. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim 41, wherein the second type of material is a ~~lofted~~ cotton/nylon braid having a cylindrical shape.

45. (currently amended) The canine head halter according to claim 41, wherein the second type of material is lofted ~~softer than the first material~~.